

Therefore, in these experiments, the effective concentration of the protein did not decrease by more than about 7% and about 3%, respectively, during this lengthy storage time. In tables 2 and 4, the amount of valuable substance remained essentially constant over 8 weeks of storage.

Support for claims 48-77, which recite particular storage times, can be found in the specification at page 4, lines 9-10, page 5, lines 11-15, page 9, tables 1-3, and page 10, table 4 and lines 6-7. Note that "2 months," as recited in claim 54, may represent from 56 to 62 days, depending on how it is measured.

The term "about" applied to percentage effective concentration and concentration of cysteine in the claims accounts for deviations from the exact numbers recited due to experimental and measurement error.

If there are any additional fees required for entering these amendments, please charge them to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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By: Carol P. Einaudi  
Carol P. Einaudi  
Reg. No. 32,220

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com